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ISSUED: MARCH 1991

PENNSYLVANIA'S

LABOR FORCE

..... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

INSIDE

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FEBRUARY 1991 HIGHLIGHTS

- Pennsylvania's joblessness increased in February, as the statewide rate of unemployment rose to 6.7 percent, seasonally adjusted, from 6.3 percent in January.
- Nonfarm jobs decreased by 4,800 in February to a total of 5,102,600. They were 5,400 below their level of February 1990.

In January 1991 . . .

- Average weekly earnings of production workers in Pennsylvania manufacturing industries dropped to $448.15, reflecting a 1.1 hour drop from December in the average workweek.
- The number of initial claims and weeks claimed increased to their highest levels since January 1985 and June 1983, respectively.
- Unadjusted unemployment rates rose in sixty-six of Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties.
- All of Pennsylvania's fifteen major labor market areas had higher seasonally adjusted unemployment rates than in December.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Robert P. Casey, Governor

Department of Labor and Industry Bureau of Research and Statistics

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Pennsylvania's Labor Force . . . A Monthly Statistical Analysis

is published monthly by the Bureau of Research and Statistics.
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Inquiries can also be directed to Labor Market Analysts located throughout Pennsylvania.

The following is a list of Analysts and the counties they serve.

Analyst	Phone Number	Counties Served
Edward Murray	(215)560-1977 Philadelphia	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia Counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties in NJ
Kenneth Shockley	(215)378-4314 Reading	Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks Counties in PA; Warren County, NJ
James Mowad	(717)963-3443 Scranton	Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wywoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga
Fred Schneider Larry Baugher	(717)771-1272 York	Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Lancaster, Adams, York, Franklin, Fulton
Glenn Lynn	(717)327-3504 Williamsport	Centre, Lycoming, Potter, Juniata, Mifflin, Clinton, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union
William Findley Debra Nicholson	(814)533-2213 Johnstown	Blair, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Clearfield, Jefferson, Huntingdon, Elk, Cameron, Greene
William Ceriani Roberta Wilson	(412)565-5350 Pittsburgh	Beaver, Allegheny, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, Butler, Indiana, Armstrong, Lawrence
Carol Patterson	(814)871-4298 Erie	Erie, Mercer, McKean, Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren

ANNOUNCING

. . . REVISED FIGURES

Each year with the release of January's Current Population (household) Survey (CPS) estimates, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revises previously reported labor force data for the eleven largest states. The revisions are based upon updated population estimates from the U.S. Bureau of the Census and new seasonal adjustment factors recomputed by BLS with the addition of the most recent year's labor force data. These revisions affect monthly resident labor force estimates back to 1988.

Other important data items reported monthly in these releases, estimates of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs in Pennsylvania, also undergo annual revisions during this time of year. These estimates are obtained from a survey of business establishments conducted each month by the state Department of Labor and Industry for the U.S. Department of Labor. Beginning with this release the data have been revised to first quarter 1990 benchmarks and are, therefore, not strictly comparable to figures published prior to March 1991.

CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

Pennsylvania's Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate Rose 0.4 percentage point in February to 6.7 percent, highest since September 1986.

The national rate also was up, to 6.5 percent in February from 6.2 percent in January. Both rates were up considerably from one year ago when the state was at 5.6 percent and the nation was at 5.3 percent.

Data, made available through the Current Population Survey of households and released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, show February's unemployment in Pennsylvania up 28,000 -- largely because of new additions to the labor force -- to 399,000, seasonally adjusted. As in January, February's unemployment rise was mild compared with recessional surges in January 1975 and 1982.

Employment, seasonally adjusted, was up 44,000 in February to 5,526,000, rebounding from January's sizeable loss. Seasonally unadjusted resident employment, however, was up only 16,000 and contrasted with an estimated 5,000 drop in establishment reported jobs -- the first such February loss since 1983. Preliminary data indicate that strong seasonal increases in services and government jobs in February were outweighed by greater than normal decreases in other lines, especially manufacturing of durable goods.

Among the eleven largest states for which seasonally adjusted data are available, Pennsylvania's 6.7 percent rate of unemployment in February ranked sixth, up from eighth in January. This placed Pennsylvania in the middle of the pack, with a rate very close to the national average, between a low of 5.3 percent in North Carolina and a high of 9.8 percent in Michigan.

UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

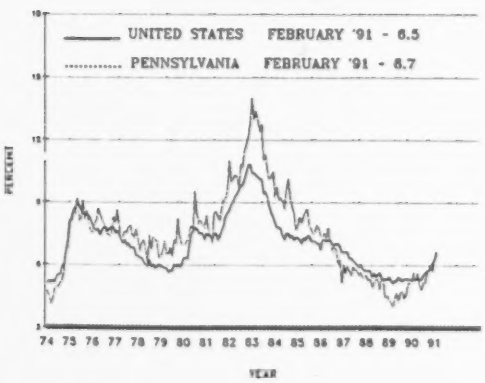

TABLE 1
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
IN PENNSYLVANIA
(All persons in thousands)

RESIDENT DATA	FEB. 1991	JAN. 1991	FEB. 1990	NET CHANGE FROM JAN. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM FEB. 1990
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,925	5,853	5,941	72	-16
Employment	5,526	5,482	5,610	44	-84
Unemployment	399	371	331	28	68
Rate of Unemployment (%)	6.7	6.3	5.6	0.4	1.1
UNADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,876	5,831	5,883	45	-07
Employment	5,432	5,416	5,510	16	-78
Unemployment	443	415	373	28	70
Rate of Unemployment (%)	7.5	7.1	6.3	0.4	1.2

PENNSYLVANIA'S JOBS

TABLE 2
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	FEB. 1991 AP/	JAN. 1991 P/	DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990	NET CHANGE TO JAN. 1991 FROM: DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990
NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	5,102.6	5,107.4	5,218.5	5,088.7	-111.1	18.7
---GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,203.2	1,221.0	1,244.6	1,255.3	-23.6	-34.3
MINING	25.8	26.2	26.9	26.7	-0.7	-0.5
CONSTRUCTION	195.5	202.6	219.4	205.3	-16.8	-2.7
MANUFACTURING	981.9	992.2	998.3	1,023.3	-6.1	-31.1
DURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	550.6	559.3	561.6	579.8	-2.3	-20.5
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS		29.8	29.6	31.3	0.2	-1.5
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES		18.7	19.1	20.4	-0.4	-1.7
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS		44.0	45.2	45.8	-1.2	-1.8
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES		87.1	87.2	89.9	-0.1	-2.8
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS		85.9	87.1	88.3	-1.2	-2.4
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY		105.2	105.2	108.6	0.0	-3.4
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		78.1	78.0	81.8	0.1	-3.7
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT		50.7	50.9	53.3	-0.2	-2.6
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PRODUCTS		39.4	39.4	39.7	0.0	-0.3
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING		20.4	19.9	20.7	0.5	-0.3
NONDURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	431.3	432.9	436.7	443.5	-3.8	-10.6
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS		89.0	90.3	88.9	-1.3	0.1
TOBACCO MANUFACTURES		1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-0.1
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS		26.5	26.9	28.4	-0.4	-1.9
APPAREL AND OTHER TEXTILE PRODS.		67.5	67.9	74.1	-0.4	-6.6
PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		39.5	39.4	40.5	0.1	-1.0
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING		85.1	85.7	85.7	-0.6	-0.6
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		61.8	62.4	61.4	-0.6	0.4
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS		11.3	11.4	10.9	-0.1	0.4
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS		42.3	42.7	42.7	-0.4	-0.4
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS		8.8	8.9	9.7	-0.1	-0.9
---SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,897.8	3,885.7	3,972.9	3,832.6	-87.2	53.1
TRANSPORTATION	160.0	163.0	168.7	155.4	-5.7	7.6
PUBLIC UTILITIES	104.5	104.8	104.9	104.1	-0.1	0.7
COMMUNICATIONS		51.1	50.7	49.3	0.4	1.8
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY		53.7	54.2	54.8	-0.5	-1.1
WHOLESALE TRADE	273.5	275.7	277.9	275.1	-2.2	0.6
RETAIL TRADE	888.0	899.0	937.5	896.9	-38.5	2.1
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES		124.4	133.8	126.4	-9.4	-2.0
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	298.6	298.6	299.1	298.1	-0.5	0.5
FINANCE		140.8	140.4	143.6	0.4	-2.8
INSURANCE		117.7	117.9	114.8	-0.2	2.9
REAL ESTATE		40.1	40.8	39.7	-0.7	0.4
SERVICES	1,458.6	1,447.3	1,466.3	1,404.7	-19.0	42.6
BUSINESS SERVICES		210.8	213.9	204.7	-3.1	6.1
HEALTH SERVICES		482.3	480.4	462.5	1.9	19.8
HOSPITALS		259.5	258.8	249.6	0.7	9.9
LEGAL SERVICES		43.0	42.9	41.2	0.1	1.8
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES		155.9	163.7	157.2	-7.8	-1.3
SOCIAL SERVICES		107.5	107.0	100.5	0.5	7.0
OTHER SERVICES		447.8	458.4	438.6	-10.6	9.2
GOVERNMENT	714.6	697.3	718.5	698.3	-21.2	-1.0
FEDERAL		136.2	136.4	139.9	-0.2	-3.7
STATE		151.4	161.4	151.0	-10.0	0.4
LOCAL		409.7	420.7	407.4	-11.0	2.3
---PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	1.6	0.7	1.0	0.8	-0.3	-0.1

AP/ = Advance preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/ = Preliminary data.

Jobs Dropped Further according to advanced preliminary figures from the monthly survey of employer payrolls. Total Pennsylvania nonagricultural employment decreased by 4,800 from January to 5,102,600 in February, 5,400 below the year-ago level.

Close-to-normal February job increases in services and government were outweighed by heavier than usual losses in all other major lines except finance, insurance and real estate. Jobs in the service-producing sector rose from January to 3,897,800, while those in goods-producing lines fell to 1,203,200; their year-to-year changes were a contrasting plus 40,200 and minus 46,100, respectively.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Jobs in Pennsylvania Decreased seasonally by 111,100 from December to 5,107,400 in January. The cumulative loss of 123,100 from last November's all-time high was still 1,000 less than that normally expected in the month of January alone. There were 18,700 more jobs this January than a year before, as year-to-year jobs gains in the services-producing sector outweighed losses from goods producers.

The department's nonagricultural job count excludes farm workers, the self-employed, domestic workers and unpaid family workers.

Jobs in the service-producing sector fell by 87,200 to 3,885,700, still their highest January level on record and 53,100 above that of January 1990.

Retail trade lost 38,500 jobs in January, but not as many as the seasonal norm because temporary hirings for the recent holiday season had been fewer than usual. Still, the 899,000 retail trade jobs this January were 2,100 more than in January 1990.

Although finance industry jobs increased by 400 from December, they were down by 2,800 from January 1990. This loss, however, was outweighed by year-to-year increases in insurance (2,900) and real estate (400) for a net gain of 500 jobs, to 298,600, in the finance, insurance and real estate group.

Services jobs dropped by 19,000 since December, but remained at their ninth highest level on record. They were up by 42,600 from January 1990 to 1,447,300 this January.

Government jobs declined by 21,200 since December -- chiefly because many state and local schools were between terms -- and by 1,000 from January 1990 to 697,300 this January.

Jobs in goods-producing industries declined from December by 23,600, not as much as normally expected. January's job level of 1,221,000, however, was 34,300 below that of one year ago.

Construction industry jobs fell by 16,800 since December. This was somewhat less than the usual seasonal drop, reflecting that hirings during 1990 were restrained by nationwide weakness in the housing market. The construction job count this January of 202,600 was 2,700 lower than that of January 1990.

Continuing on a five-month decline, manufacturing jobs were off by 6,100 -- by 2,300 in durables and 3,800 in nondurables -- since December to 992,200 in January, their lowest total on record. Compared with January 1990, durable-goods industries lost 20,500 jobs (with all lines sharing in the loss), but nondurables just about half that, 10,600. This reflected tendencies for consumers to postpone hard goods purchases during recessionary periods.

Within mining, jobs fell by 700 from December and 500 from January 1990 to 26,200 this January, reflecting problems in the coal industry.

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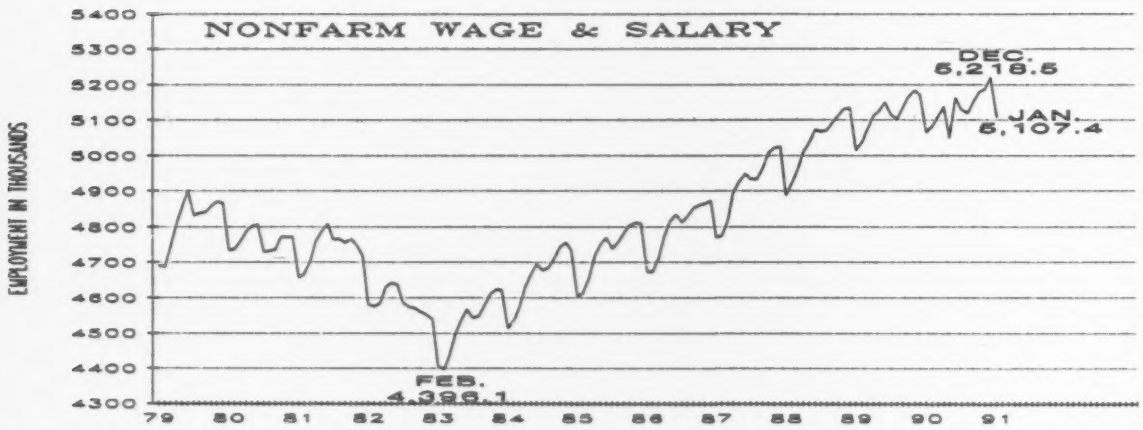
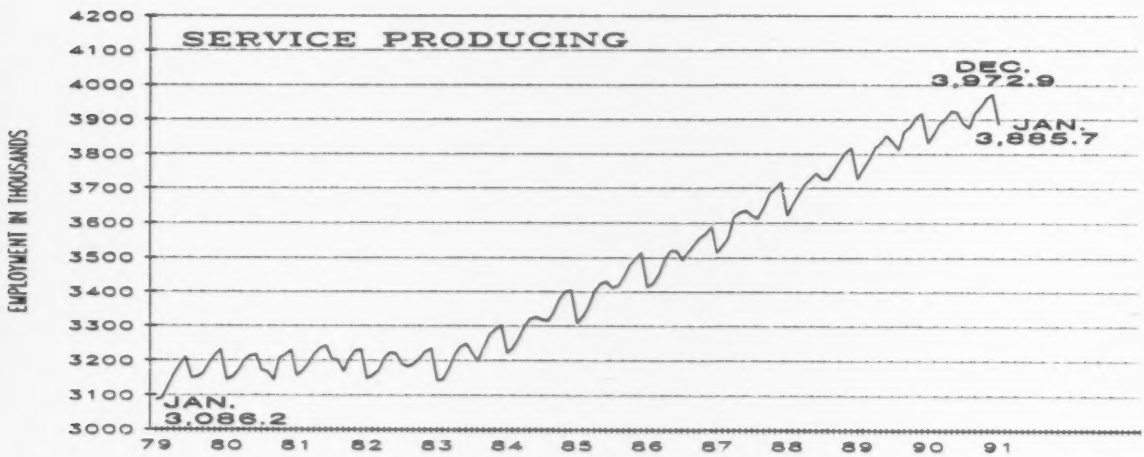
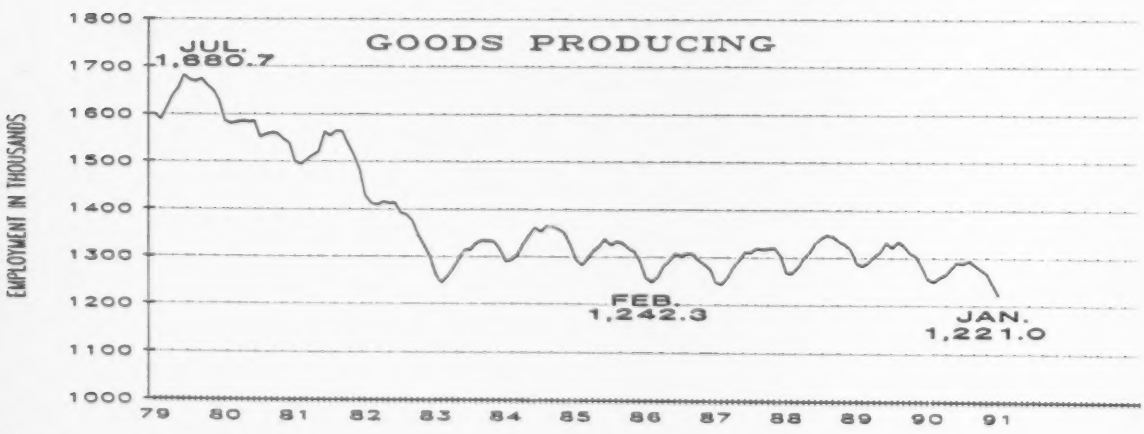
PENNSYLVANIA WAGE & SALARY JOBS
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA







HOURS AND EARNINGS

TABLE 3
PENNSYLVANIA HOURS AND EARNINGS
OF MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

INDUSTRY TITLE	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	JAN. 1991 P/	DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990	JAN. 1991 P/	DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990	JAN. 1991 P/	DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COAL MINING	$783.19	$707.54	$871.51	45.7	42.7	41.4	$16.70	$16.57	$16.22
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	453.60	496.22	413.42	40.0	43.3	39.6	11.34	11.46	10.44
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	448.15	460.94	441.73	39.8	40.9	40.6	11.26	11.27	10.88
DURABLE GOODS	485.44	495.81	481.43	41.0	41.7	41.9	11.84	11.89	11.49
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	352.43	356.64	358.38	38.1	37.7	39.6	9.25	9.46	9.05
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	368.77	372.74	360.99	38.9	39.3	39.8	9.48	9.51	9.07
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODS.	461.84	475.12	468.00	40.3	41.1	41.6	11.46	11.56	11.25
PRIMARY METALS	551.89	564.40	563.33	41.7	42.5	43.3	13.23	13.28	13.01
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	456.33	468.18	449.17	41.0	42.1	41.9	11.13	11.12	10.72
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY	511.70	534.87	518.63	41.5	42.3	43.4	12.33	12.49	11.95
ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH.	458.02	475.25	448.36	41.3	42.7	41.4	11.09	11.13	10.83
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	594.15	583.80	556.28	42.5	42.0	41.7	13.98	13.90	13.34
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PROD.	465.20	472.80	456.91	40.7	40.9	41.2	11.43	11.56	11.09
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	439.70	420.81	414.86	39.4	38.5	38.7	11.16	10.93	10.72
NONDURABLE GOODS	401.00	416.16	389.78	38.3	39.9	38.9	10.47	10.43	10.02
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	439.88	458.16	430.40	39.7	41.5	40.3	11.08	11.04	10.68
TOBACCO PRODUCTS	274.32	296.61	288.90	40.4	43.3	42.8	6.79	6.85	6.75
TEXTILE PRODUCTS	277.84	301.02	295.91	33.8	36.8	37.6	8.22	8.18	7.87
APPAREL AND RELATED PRODUCTS	226.32	238.64	228.15	32.8	34.8	33.8	6.90	6.80	6.75
PAPER PRODUCTS	497.46	509.21	503.42	42.7	43.3	43.7	11.65	11.76	11.52
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	444.63	474.38	438.24	38.1	40.2	38.3	11.67	11.80	11.39
CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	567.33	573.89	546.84	41.9	42.7	42.0	13.54	13.44	13.02
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	735.09	683.20	623.00	45.8	42.7	41.7	16.05	16.00	14.94
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	413.00	425.80	407.68	41.3	42.2	41.6	10.00	10.09	9.80
LEATHER PRODUCTS	267.48	282.66	260.82	35.9	38.3	37.8	7.45	7.38	6.90
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COMMUNICATIONS	671.31	652.54	552.82	41.8	41.3	39.8	16.06	15.80	13.96
ELECTRIC, GAS, & SANITARY	731.87	705.56	694.30	42.9	42.3	42.7	17.06	16.68	16.26

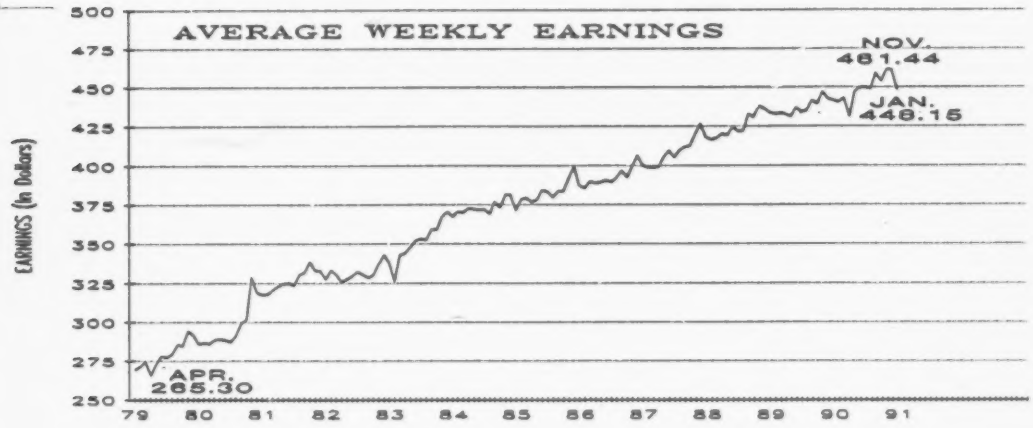
P/ = Preliminary Data

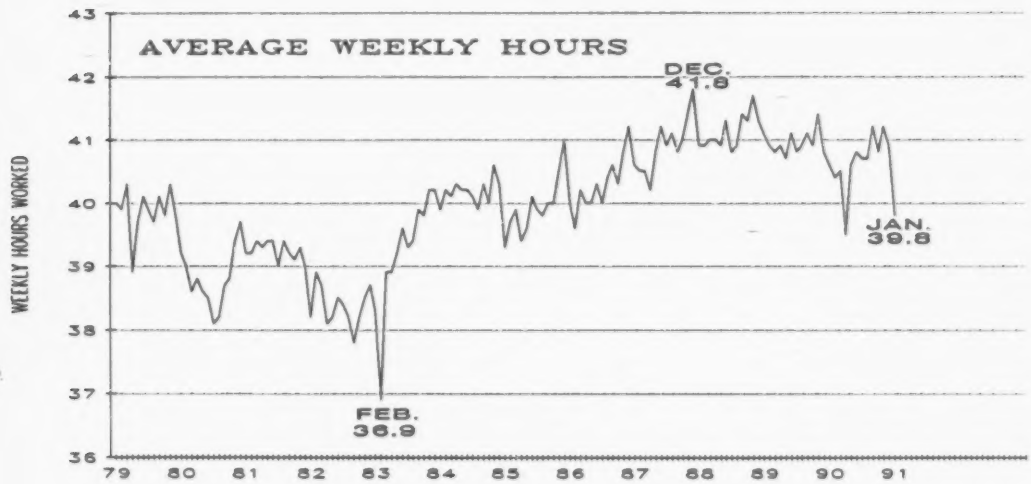
Production Workers' Average Workweek Declined to 39.8 hours during the middle week of January. Except for last April -- when Good Friday's occurrence in the survey reference period caused an atypical shortening of the workweek -- it was the first time since February 1986 that the average manufacturing workweek was less than 40 hours. Historically, layoffs become much more widespread below this level. The January average was down 1.1 hours from December and 0.8 of an hour from January 1990.

The shorter workweek and a cent drop in average hourly pay (to $11.26) brought average weekly earnings to $448.15... down $12.79 from December. As the net result of an 0.8 of an hour decrease in the average workweek and an increase of 38 cents in average hourly pay, average weekly earnings this January were up $6.42 from January 1990.

After holding up well through the early part of the current recession, the average durable goods workweek fell for the second straight month in January. At 41.0 hours this January, the hard-goods workweek was down 0.7 of an hour over the month. Seven of the ten hard-goods lines had shorter workweeks in January than they had in December. Only miscellaneous manufactures, transportation equipment and lumber and wood products fared better in January versus December.

PENNSYLVANIA HOURS & EARNINGS
FOR MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS





UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

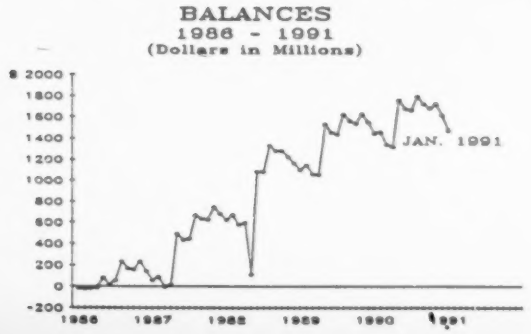
TABLE 4
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REGULAR PROGRAM
(Not seasonally adjusted)

	JAN. 1991	DEC. 1990	JAN. 1990	NET CHANGE FROM DEC. 90	NET CHANGE FROM JAN. 90
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	190,206	155,811	149,608	34,395	40,598
Weeks Claimed	1,095,937	750,366	859,744	345,571	236,193
...Average Weekly Volume	238,247	178,659	186,901	59,589	51,346
Insured Unemployment Rate	4.9%	3.6%	3.8%	1.3	1.1
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	94,478	48,347	74,871	46,131	19,607
Final Payments	13,163	9,559	9,908	3,604	3,255
Weeks Paid	945,028	629,491	707,179	315,537	237,849
Net Benefit Amount	$170,964,559	$111,113,532	$124,337,169	$59,851,027	$46,627,390
Average Check	$180.91	$176.51	$175.82	$4.40	$5.09

Initial Claims Soared In January by 34,395 or 22 percent from December to their highest monthly total since January 1985. This far exceeded the usual seasonal increase. Compared to a year ago, January's initial claims were up 40,598 or 27 percent – the 21st consecutive month that they were higher than a year before. Total weeks claimed for January reached 1,095,937, highest since June 1983's 1,138,964. Their 345,571 or 46 percent jump from December, their largest over-the-month volume increase in 11 years, sent the insured unemployment rate up 1.3 percentage points from December to 4.9 percent in January, highest since January 1986.

The average check amount for January rose by $4.40 over December's average to a record $180.91. A portion of this increase was due to raising the maximum benefit rate from $280 to $291 beginning in January. The maximum is raised each January in accordance with the state's Unemployment Compensation Law. The higher average check coupled with a 50 percent increase in weeks paid lifted the net benefit amount in January to $171 million, $60 million above the previous month and almost $47 million more than in January 1990. Each of the first three months of 1983 were the only times more net benefits were paid out than in January 1991. With disbursements far exceeding income during January, cash reserves in the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund fell by $141 million by the end of the month to about $1.5 billion.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACTIVITY



JANUARY 1991		
Income	$	29,977,464
Disbursements	$	170,960,260
Cash Reserves	$	1,479,934,513

UNEMPLOYMENT ... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Rose in Sixty-Six Pennsylvania Counties in January.

Only Cameron County had a lower rate than December, down 0.3 of a percentage point, largely because many people left the labor force after seasonal jobs. Rate increases ranged from 0.9 percentage point in Montour County to 3.6 points in Warren County where post-holiday and other seasonal cutbacks brought widespread layoffs and a 43 percent rise in unemployment claims.

The three counties with the lowest January unemployment rates are all suburban Philadelphia counties – Chester (4.2 percent), Delaware (4.8) and Montgomery (4.9). Bucks, the other suburban Philadelphia county, was seventh at 5.8 percent while Philadelphia County/City, with a substantially higher rate of 7.4 percent, tied for twenty-first. In contrast, Allegheny County, fifth with a rate of 5.3 percent and home of the City of Pittsburgh, was in considerably better economic health than the surrounding Pittsburgh PMSA counties, all of which had higher unemployment rates than Philadelphia County. The highest January rate, 15.4 percent, occurred in Clinton County where seasonal factors compounded ongoing economic problems.

Sixty-three Pennsylvania counties had higher unemployment rates in January 1991 than in January 1990 . . . one rate was unchanged, three were lower. Cameron County, down 2.8 percentage points, had the largest over-the-year rate decrease while Fulton County, due mainly to cutbacks in manufacturing, had the largest increase, 5.3 percentage points.

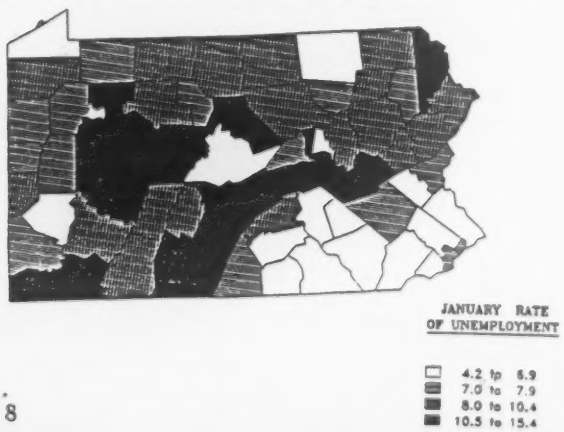


TABLE 5
PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES RANKED BY RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, preliminary)
JANUARY 1991

COUNTY	RANK	RATE	VOLUME
Chester	1	4.2	8,200
Delaware	2	4.8	13,900
Montgomery	3	4.9	18,800
Cumberland	4	5.1	5,500
Allegheny	5	5.3	34,300
Dauphin	6	5.5	7,400
Bucks	7	5.8	17,300
Lehigh	8	6.3	9,400
Lebanon	9	6.4	4,100
Montour	9	6.4	500
Lancaster	11	6.5	14,300
Bradford	12	6.6	2,100
Centre	13	6.7	4,300
York	14	6.8	12,500
Adams	15	6.9	2,800
Erie	15	6.9	9,300
Franklin	17	7.0	4,100
Mercer	18	7.1	3,700
Sullivan	19	7.2	200
Berks	20	7.3	12,700
Butler	21	7.4	5,600
Philadelphia	21	7.4	53,700
Northampton	23	7.5	8,800
Lawrence	24	7.6	3,600
Venango	25	7.7	1,900
Cameron	26	7.8	200
Warren	26	7.8	1,700
Lackawanna	28	7.9	8,600
Union	28	7.9	1,300
Washington	28	7.9	7,400
McKean	31	8.0	1,600
Westmoreland	31	8.0	14,000
Pike	33	8.3	1,000
Elk	34	8.7	1,500
Perry	35	8.9	1,900
Luzerne	36	9.0	14,300
Lycoming	36	9.0	5,400
Potter	38	9.2	800
Tioga	39	9.4	1,800
Wyoming	40	9.5	1,300
Monroe	41	9.7	4,900
Blair	42	9.8	6,100
Crawford	42	9.8	3,900
Columbia	44	9.9	3,200
Susquehanna	44	9.9	1,800
Beaver	46	10.2	6,100
Cambria	46	10.2	6,700
Carbon	48	10.3	2,700
Somerset	48	10.3	3,400
Fayette	50	10.5	6,200
Northumberland	51	10.7	5,200
Mifflin	52	10.8	2,400
Jefferson	53	10.9	2,200
Schuylkill	53	10.9	7,900
Greene	55	11.2	1,500
Indiana	56	11.4	4,000
Armstrong	57	11.5	3,300
Wayne	58	11.9	2,400
Clearfield	59	12.4	4,300
Clarion	60	12.5	2,200
Snyder	61	12.8	2,500
Bedford	62	12.9	2,900
Juniata	63	13.6	1,400
Fulton	64	13.8	900
Huntingdon	65	13.9	2,700
Forest	66	14.8	300
Clinton	67	15.4	2,400

PENNSYLVANIA'S LABOR MARKET AREAS

TABLE 6
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME AND RATE
BY MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA IN PENNSYLVANIA
(Seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

AREA	JANUARY 1991 * UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	JANUARY 1991 * UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	DECEMBER 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	DECEMBER 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	JANUARY 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	JANUARY 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%
UNITED STATES	7,715.0	6.2	7,600.0	6.1	6,544.0	5.3
PENNSYLVANIA	371.0	6.3	337.0	5.7	305.0	5.2
LABOR MARKET AREA						
ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA	21.3	6.4	19.5	5.8	17.0	5.1
ALTOONA MSA	5.0	8.0	4.9	7.9	4.4	7.1
BEAVER COUNTY PMSA	5.4	9.0	5.1	8.5	4.8	7.9
ERIE MSA	8.1	6.0	7.9	5.8	7.9	5.9
HARRISBURG-LEB-CARLISLE MSA	16.9	5.1	15.6	4.7	13.7	4.1
JOHNSTOWN MSA	8.7	8.8	7.8	7.9	7.4	7.6
LANCASTER MSA	13.3	5.9	10.5	4.6	8.6	3.8
PHILADELPHIA PMSA	135.3	5.6	126.2	5.2	105.8	4.3
PITTSBURGH PMSA	52.3	5.3	50.1	5.0	48.0	4.9
READING MSA	11.6	6.7	10.4	5.9	8.3	4.7
SCRANTON--WILKES-BARRE MSA	28.4	7.8	26.8	7.3	24.8	6.8
SHARON MSA	3.3	6.3	2.7	5.1	2.8	5.4
STATE COLLEGE MSA	3.9	6.0	3.7	5.4	3.4	5.1
WILLIAMSPORT MSA	4.7	7.9	4.3	7.1	4.2	6.9
YORK MSA	12.8	5.8	11.2	5.0	9.5	4.2

*Preliminary data

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rose in All Major Labor Market Areas in January, removing any doubts about Pennsylvania's economy having fallen into recession. Not only did the state rate increase over both the month and the year, but every major labor market area rate increased as well. The January unemployment rates ranged from 5.1 percent in the Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle MSA to 9.0 percent in the Beaver County PMSA. State capital areas tend to be somewhat recession-proof, while Beaver County still endures economic problems since the last recession. All three of the highest January unemployment rates of 8.0 percent or more are in areas in the southwestern quadrant of the state, including the Altoona and Johnstown MSAs and the Beaver County PMSA. In this sector, only the Pittsburgh PMSA, with a newly diversified economy and an unemployment rate of 5.3 percent, is in fairly good economic health.

The greatest over-the-month unemployment rate increase, 1.3 percentage points, occurred in the Lancaster MSA where claims increased dramatically as the result of a broad-based economic slowdown. The Altoona MSA, up 0.1 of a percentage point, had the smallest increase. However, at 8.0 percent, the Altoona rate is the third highest in the state due largely to the inability of the local economy to provide enough jobs for a rapidly expanding labor force.

The Lancaster MSA also had the largest over-the-year increase . . . up 2.1 percentage points. The Erie MSA, showing broad-based strength in both the goods-producing and service-producing sectors, had the smallest over-the-year rate gain . . . 0.1 of a percentage point.

Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) had unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted, ranging from 4.2 percent in SDA 21 to 10.9 percent in SDA 10.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

TABLE 7
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
JANUARY 1991 — PRELIMINARY
(DATA NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, VOLUME IN THOUSANDS)

SDA NO.	COUNTIES	LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMP.	RATE(%)
01	Erie	134.6	125.3	9.3	6.9
02	Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren	105.5	95.5	9.9	9.4
03	City of Pittsburgh	170.2	161.2	8.9	5.3
04	Allegheny County minus City of Pittsburgh	479.5	454.1	25.4	5.3
05	Beaver	59.5	53.4	6.1	10.2
06	Armstrong, Butler, Indiana	138.9	126.0	12.9	9.3
07	Fayette, Westmoreland	235.0	214.7	20.2	8.6
08	Greene, Washington	107.0	98.1	8.9	8.3
09	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	103.6	93.0	10.6	10.2
10	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset	209.0	186.3	22.7	10.9
11	Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Snyder, Union	229.4	208.0	21.4	9.3
13	Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming	84.7	77.6	7.1	8.4
14	Lackawanna	108.5	99.9	8.6	7.9
15	Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne	108.3	97.4	10.9	10.1
16	Luzerne, Schuylkill	231.6	209.4	22.2	9.6
17	Philadelphia	724.2	670.4	53.7	7.4
18	Bucks	296.8	279.4	17.3	5.8
19	Montgomery	383.6	364.9	18.8	4.9
20	Delaware	286.5	272.6	13.9	4.8
21	Chester	197.0	188.7	8.2	4.2
22	Lehigh, Northampton	266.8	248.5	18.3	6.8
23	Berks	173.5	160.8	12.7	7.3
24	Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry	339.0	318.6	20.4	6.0
25	Lancaster	221.7	207.3	14.3	6.5
26	York	183.1	170.6	12.5	6.8
27	Adams, Franklin	98.1	91.3	6.8	7.0
28	Lawrence, Mercer	99.4	92.1	7.3	7.3
29	Montour, Northumberland	56.2	50.5	5.7	10.1
PENNSYLVANIA - TOTAL		5831.0	5416.0	415.0	7.1

A Service Delivery Area is a geographical planning region defined by the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPIC

PENNSYLVANIA 1990 WORK STOPPAGES TIED 1989 RECORD LOW

The number of work stoppages (strikes or lockouts) in Pennsylvania during 1990 was tied with the record low of 123 experienced in 1989. This was 23 less than the previous record low of 146 set in 1988. There were 157 stoppages in 1987.

Reaching agreements without work stoppages is usually beneficial to both workers and employers, and has a positive effect on Pennsylvania's economy.

In 1990, 92 stoppages occurred in the private sector and 31, including 26 involving schools, were in the public sector. That compares with 2,663 contracts up for negotiation last year in the private sector and 631 in the public sector. Thus, slightly more than 96 percent of these negotiations concluded without a work stoppage--about 97 percent of the private and 95 percent of the public.

The number of stoppages in Pennsylvania has generally declined since the early 1970s, peaking at 721 in 1974 and 1976. Data compiled since 1971 by the Department of Labor and Industry's Bureau of Mediation are shown in the chart and table on the following page.

Comparable data for the nation and other states are not available. A recently released Bureau of Labor Statistics national report, however, indicated that work stoppages beginning in the given calendar year and involving 1,000 or more workers in the United States declined from 51 in 1989 to 45 in 1990, the second lowest level of 1947-1990, after the 1988 low of 40. The peak year was 1952, with 470 such stoppages.

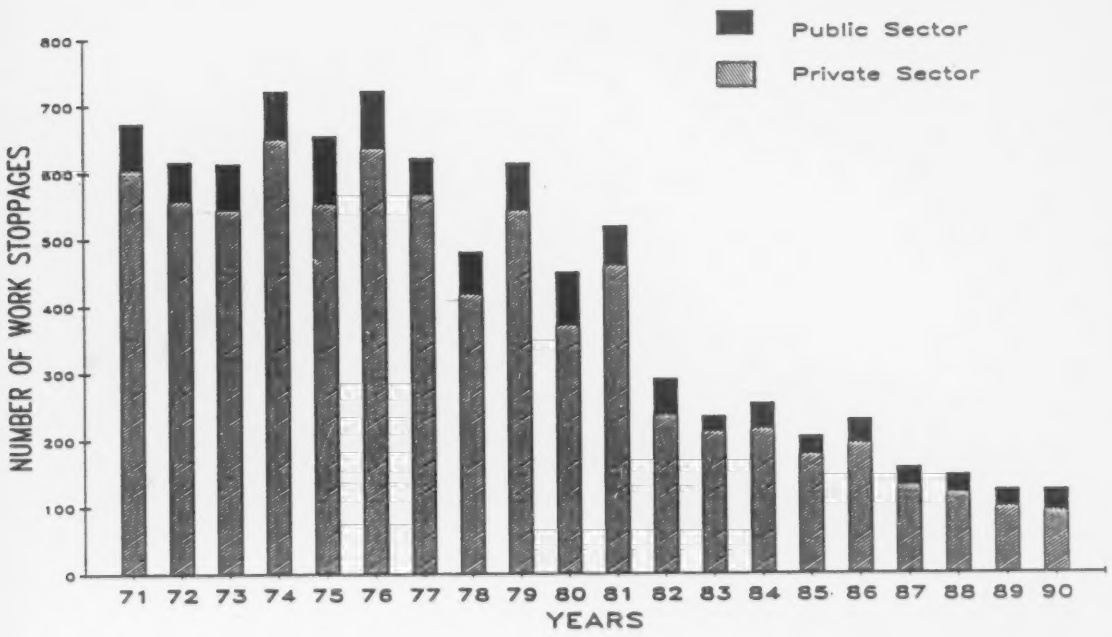
Some possible contributing factors for the declining number of stoppages could be a relatively diminishing union membership, a stronger economy, lower inflation rates, and a healthy labor climate (due to improved labor/management cooperation).

Approximately 17 million wage and salary employes in the United States were union members in 1988 (as reported by the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics). The number of union members has been virtually unchanged since 1985, while the nation's employment has been increasing. Thus, the proportion of the nation's nonfarm employes who are union members edged downward from 18 percent in 1985 to 17.5 percent in 1986, 17 percent in 1987, and 16.8 percent in 1988.

**** CORRECTION ****

The February issue of PLF included a special interest topic concerning Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC). Only eight of nine target groups were listed. The ninth group is economically disadvantaged Vietnam-era veterans.

PENNSYLVANIA WORK STOPPAGES



PENNSYLVANIA WORK STOPPAGES

Year	Private Sector	Public Sector	Total
1971	604	70	674
1972	557	59	616
1973	543	70	613
1974	649	72	721
1975	552	102	654
1976	635	86	721
1977	565	55	620
1978	417	63	480
1979	541	71	612
1980	370	79	449
1981	459	58	517
1982	236	53	289
1983	211	23	234
1984	215	38	253
1985	177	27	204
1986	193	36	229
1987	130	27	157
1988	119	27	146
1989	97	26	123
1990	92	31	123

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Research & Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1987) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by number of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by average annual covered employment. Average annual covered employment is estimated until six months after year's end due to a lag in reporting covered employment.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employe contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Administration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

Cash Reserves - Amount of funds available in the State's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits.

LMI ALERT

PENNSYLVANIA
LABOR
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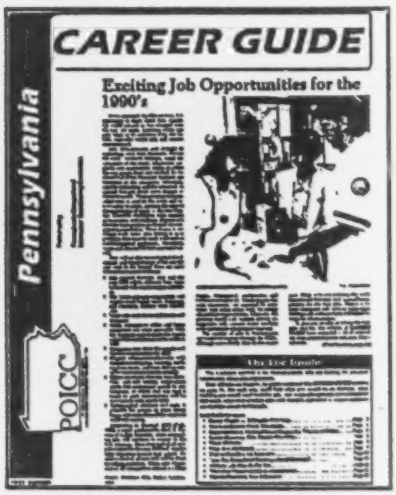
INFORMATION

March 1991

Attention Students!!

Are you making a Career Choice ? ? ?



The Pennsylvania Career Guide contains articles helpful to those choosing a career, starting a job search, deciding on a college or training program, and/or obtaining financial aid. Prepared by POICC, the Career Guide also provides specific occupational information.

The Bureau of Research and Statistics collects, analyzes and distributes labor market information for Pennsylvania and sub-state areas.

For additional information, inquiries should be made to your local Labor Market Analyst listed on the inside front cover or:

Mr. John G. Pretz, Information Officer
Bureau of Research and Statistics
Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
7th and Forster Streets
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